



TRAVIS ELLIOTT
TOWN MANAGER

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TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Travis Elliott, Town Manager
CC: TOP Staff
DATE: January 13, 2023
RE: Info Update

PARACHUTE PLAN JAM

You've heard of Country Jam and Rock Jam, but you do not want to miss PLAN JAM. On Wednesday evening, February 22nd, Town staff and our team of consultants will be hosting Plan Jam – a public open house for both the Downtown Development Plan and the Parachute Trails Plan. Our goal is to combine the two planning efforts into one community engagement event to make it as easy and convenient as possible for community members to attend and provide feedback – as opposed to hosting two separate open houses throughout the month. There is also a lot of overlap between the two plans in the downtown corridor, where several of the trail alignments connect. Food will be served, and we will have a lot of conceptual designs, maps, and images available for the public to weigh in on.

The Open House will be Wednesday, February 22nd, from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Co Work Space – 135 E. 1st Street. All community members are invited, and individuals can stop by anytime during the three-hour window and stay for as long or briefly as they like.

PARACHUTE PICK UP

Speaking of good times, the annual Parachute Pick Up is right around the corner – April 28th and 29th. This year, we are planning to dedicate Friday, April 28th to community volunteering and projects, as well as the COGA picnic, and only accept trash drop offs on Saturday, April 29th from 8am – 3pm. This will allow all Town staff and community members to work together on beautifying Parachute on Friday, as well as allow ample time for community members to clean up / out their own properties and make drop offs on Saturday. We also hope that this will help cut down on the amount of refuse received from commercial operators and contractors. No matter what, we know this is a very valued community event that brings everyone together and helps keep our Town spotless. The picnic is free, courtesy of COGA. We will also continue to accept trash, appliances, and yard waste free of charge, but we will not be able to accept any hazardous waste, tires, or refrigerators (or any cooling appliances such as air conditioners). A food donation to Lift Up is encouraged with each drop off on Saturday. We are working to finalize the rules and will have fliers and the website updated soon.

RECORD YEAR FOR PATS

2022 is in the books, and our PATS transit system provided approximately 7463 rides throughout the year. This is a new record and is approximately a 44% increase over 2021 ridership numbers.

TID BITS:

- The fire district informed us that they are planning controlled burns for their slash piles near Cottonwood park today – 1/13.
- Town Hall will be CLOSED Monday, January 16th in observance MLK Jr. Day. PATS will still operate as normally scheduled, and the police department will be available – as always.
- We participated in a chip & seal scoping meeting with CDOT this week. In 2024, CDOT plans to chip and seal the majority of Highway 6 – EXCEPT the portion of 1st Street and downtown Parachute.
- CDOT has also informed us that they plan to continue the I70 overlay and repaving project this summer (2023). They will be paving the next section of I70 from Parachute towards DeBeque, approximately 5 miles west of Parachute.
- We noticed an uptick in unpaid water / sewer bills this past month. Late notices are being mailed out.
- We are planning to host a grand (re) opening of the Wasson McKay park space on Thursday, May 4th. Save the date for now as we work out the final details.
- Both Town and GVFPD staff (including our respective attorneys) have finished our review of the fleet fuel station IGA. It is on the agenda for Council consideration and approval on Thursday – 1/19.
- We are still offering consultations and digital marketing assistance to local small businesses. If you know a small business owner, have them complete a request for assistance, here: [Local Business - Visit Parachute](#)
- We have two RFPs for two large capital projects out for bid. One is for the Cardinal Way sidewalk and streetscape improvements. The other is for the fleet fuel station. Interested firms and contractors can find the details on our website, and it will also be advertised in the Post Independent. Bids are due back by early February.
- Mr. King returned home with a bright and shiny new Public Works fleet vehicle yesterday. The truck will be outfitted with gear and a snowplow before it goes to work in Town.
- There is a Town Council meeting next Thursday, January 19th. The packet is now live and available online and in Granicus.
- Several grant applications will be due in late February / early March for the GCFMLD, AGNC, and CDOT. We are planning on putting together several applications over the coming weeks.
- Speaking of grants, we recently updated our Colorado Trust grant for the PATS bus shelters. It will be resubmitted in the next couple of weeks. Fingers are crossed.
- We've been informed that Love's is targeting a late April / early May opening date.
- It's time to renew your dog license!
- We received a business license application for a new photography studio, which will take the space recently vacated by Legacy Barbering.
- The rotisserie that was planning to open in the Southgate Plaza recently informed us that they are tweaking their plans and making the space into a store instead.
- We received an updated draft of the Trails plan this week, and it is looking good. We will be making some additional edits over the coming weeks before it is delivered to the stakeholder committee.

- The Town issued a handful of citations to the property owners in the Riverside subdivision for not repairing or removing the white vinyl fence that has become dilapidated.
- We met with our consultant, Polco, to kickoff the 2023 community survey this week. The survey will likely be available later this spring, but we have a lot of work to do creating the survey before then.
- We had a dam problem. An ice dam caused runoff water to backup at the Public Works shop and flood a portion of the building. Public Works staff was able to mitigate the problem and prevent (most) of the water damage.
- Meanwhile, the well pump at Public Works has also been acting up and hasn't been delivering adequate water to the building. We are looking into what is causing the issue.
- We are working with ProVelocity to start replacing some of the computer devices that are past their prime and scheduled for replacement in 2023.
- We are continuing a lot of hard work and accounting to close the books on 2022. We also will be working on issuing 2022 W-2s before the IRS deadline.
- Unless you've been living under a rock, you probably know that stores are no longer offering free plastic bags. But, don't forget we have free PATS reusable bags available to the public at Town Hall.
- Rockmageddon 2023 tickets are now ON SALE. Visit rockmageddon.com for details and to buy tickets for camping, trail rides, and events/games. The concert and spectating during the event will be FREE.
- Ting is scheduled to connect the Wasson McKay house with high-speed fiber internet today. This fiber connection will allow us to install security cameras and offer public wifi. I'm sure the Wassons and McKays never dreamed of this day when they built the home in 1902.
- Our new development, application, and other fees went into effect January 1st, but our utility rate increases won't go into effect until June 1st. Details on the amount of the utility rate increases are available on our website, and we will be working to communicate this pending increase to our customers.
- We will begin the process of moving to the new, more secure, URL of www.parachute.gov in 2023. All of the previous urls and our email addresses will continue to work, but this new URL will be more identifiable and secure for us in the future.
- Upcoming Meetings and Events:
(please let us know if you plan to attend so we can track public noticing requirements)
 - Parachute Plan Jam – Wednesday, Feb. 22nd 4 – 7 p.m. – Parachute Co-Work
 - Parachute Pick Up – April 28 – 29, 2023 – Cottonwood Park
 - Wasson McKay Park Grand (RE)Opening – Thursday, May 4, 2023
 - Rockmageddon – June 1 – 4, 2023
 - Summer Staff Family Barbecue – Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 5:30pm – Cottonwood Park